

Missouri Assessment Program

**Communications Arts
Practice Test**

Grade 7

Student's Name _____
(please print first name and last name)

Teacher's Name _____
(please print first name and last name)

School District _____

Building/Room _____

Date _____

Form 30

Do not open test booklet until instructed to do so.

Arithmetic

by Carl Sandberg

Arithmetic is where numbers fly like pigeons in and out of your head.

Arithmetic tells you how many you lose or win if you know how many you
had before you lost or won.

Arithmetic is seven eleven all good children go to heaven—or five six
bundle of sticks.

Arithmetic is numbers you squeeze from your head to your hand to your
pencil to your paper till you get the answer.

Arithmetic is where the answer is right and everything is nice and you can
look out of the window and see the blue sky—or the answer is wrong
and you have to start all over and try again and see how it comes out
this time.

If you take a number and double it and double it again and then double
it a few more times, the number gets bigger and bigger and goes
higher and higher and only arithmetic can tell you what the number
is when you decide to quit doubling.

Arithmetic is where you have to multiply—and you carry the multiplication
table in your head and hope you won't lose it.

If you have two animal crackers, one good and one bad, and you eat one
and a striped zebra with streaks all over him eats the other, how many
animal crackers will you have if somebody offers you five six seven
and you say No no no and you say Nay nay nay and you say Nix
nix nix?

If you ask your mother for one fried egg for breakfast and she gives you
two fried eggs and you eat both of them, who is better in arithmetic,
you or your mother?

Arithmetic

1. What is the author's attitude toward arithmetic? Use two details and/or examples from the poem to explain your answer.

2. Complete the graphic organizer by listing two causes and their effects that are mentioned in the poem. Be sure to give the chart a title.

Cause	Effect
1.	1.
2.	2.

-
- This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

- [illegible]

Alternate Constructed-Response Item

The author repeats the phrase “Arithmetic is . . .” to provide different definitions of arithmetic. Identify one of the author’s definitions and explain why you agree or disagree with the definition.

Circle the letter of the correct answer for Questions 5 and 6.

5. What is the author’s purpose for writing this poem?
- A. He wants to persuade readers to become arithmetic teachers.
 - B. He wants to inform readers about the value of arithmetic.
 - C. He wants to complain about the difficulty of arithmetic.
 - D. He wants to share his appreciation for arithmetic with readers.
6. Which phrase provides the best example of imagery?
- A. Arithmetic is where the answer is right . . .
 - B. If you take a number and double it . . .
 - C. Arithmetic is where you have to multiply . . .
 - D. . . . a striped zebra with streaks all over him . . .

- You will now have 45 minutes for your prewriting activities such as brainstorming, listing, outlining, and writing a rough draft. Use the pages in the test booklet labeled “prewriting” to record your ideas and your rough draft.

You have read a poem about arithmetic. Write a paper to your math teacher explaining how arithmetic is used in everyday life.

This image shows a single page from a notebook or ledger. It features ten evenly spaced horizontal blue lines across its entire width, providing a guide for handwriting. The paper itself is white and appears slightly aged or off-white. There are no margins, text, or other markings present on the page.

Prewriting

[illegible]

Prewriting

[illegible]

Prewriting

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Prewriting

[illegible]

Final Paper

[illegible]

Final Paper

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Final Paper

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Final Paper

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